Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PAGE 01 STATE 170878 64 ORIGIN AF-06 INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCCT-01 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 /078 R DRAFTED BY AF/E:GKULICK:PCS APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE S/CCT:RFEAREY S/PRS:RFUNSETH (INFO) ----- 130958 O P 192142Z JUL 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT CINCUSNAVEUR COMIDEASTFOR NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC USCINCEUR NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI JCS/NMCC **SECDEF** CNO CINCLANT CINCLANTFLT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 170878 E.O.11652: GDS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PAGE 02 STATE 170878

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT:PRESS GUIDANCE ON CISCO KIDNAPPINGS REF: STATE 167579

FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MADE IN DEPT. SPOKESMAN'S PRESS GUIDANCE

- 1. AFTER THIRD SENTENCE OF ANSWER TO QUESTION "WHAT IS STATE DEPT. DOING ABOUT IT?" ADD: "THE ETHIOPIANS HAVE BEEN COOPERATIVE. ETHIOPIAN SECURITY FORCES ARE CONDUCTING A SEARCH FOR THE KIDNAPPERS, WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE SAFETY OF THE CAPTIVES."
- 2. FOLLOWING FOUR Q'S AND A'S HAVE BEEN ADDED.
- Q. WHY WASN'T THIS ANNOUNCED EARLIER? A. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS WE DID CONFIRM THE ABDUCTION. Q. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF KAGNEW STATION? A. KAGNEW STATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN MAY 1953 UNDER A 25-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT. THE OPERATION AT KAGNEW WAS REDUCED TO ITS PRESENT SIZE AS A RESULT OF A MAJOR PHASE-DOWN BEGUN IN 1973. THERE ARE NO CURRENT PLANS FOR FURTHER REDUCTIONS. THE NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS UNIT IS OPERATED BY ELEVEN U.S. NAVY PERSONNEL AND THE CISCO TEAM. Q. WHERE ARE CAMPBELL AND HARRELL FROM? A. MR. CAMPBELL'S HOME TOWN IS SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA AND

MR. HARRELL IS FROM MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN. Q. CAN YOU GIVE US ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ABDUCTION? A. THE ABDUCTION TOOK PLACE AT THE TRANSMISSION SITE ABOUT 10:45 A.M. LOCAL TIME ON JULY 14. ACCORDING TO AN ACCOUNT BY ETHIOPIAN EMPLOYEES AT THE SITE, THE CAPTIVES WERE TAKEN OFF IN A CISCO TRUCK. THE NEXT DAY, ETHIOPIAN SECURITY FORCES FOUND THE TRUCK ABANDONED ABOUT 17 KM. WEST OF ASMARA. THERE WERE NO MESSAGES OR CLUES LEFT IN THE TRUCK. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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